



## A Better Friend

September 16, 2018

Ruth • Message 5

PRAY • REVIEW

## Review the Rules

RULE 1: Someone has to offer: "Will you join me?"

RULE 2: Someone has to respond: "I'm with you!"

CONSIDER JONATHAN • ELIJAH • DANIEL ET AL. • PAUL & BARNABAS  
WHAT ABOUT A FRIEND WHO NEEDS A FRIEND BUT DOESN'T WANT ONE?

ILL: DEPRESSED FRIEND • BOUNDARIES AGAINST ABUSE, YES, BUT SOMETIMES...

## Ruth &amp; Naomi

Ruth 1:1-22(p. 121)

1-2 • MAJOR PROBLEMS... FAMINE? MOAB? BALAAM!!

3-4 • MOABITE WOMEN!!! • 4-5 • 6-22 • ILL: I CAN'T STAND COMPLAINING... FAMILY, CHURCH, ETC.

Ruth put Naomi **ABOVE HERSELF**.

"I won't join your **MISERY**, but I won't **LEAVE YOU**."

HOW? WHY? NO IDEA... RUTH IS JUST AN INCREDIBLE WOMAN!

Ruth 2-4

NARRATE THE STORY • BOAZ'S FIELD • NAOMI + RUTH'S PLAN • BOAZ COMMITMENT

Ruth 4:13-15 • A **BLESSING** for Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz.

Ruth 4:16-17 • A **BLESSING** for **ISRAEL**.

Matthew 1:1, 5-6a • A **BLESSING** for the **WORLD**!

RUTH CHOSE THE GOD OF ISRAEL (YAY!) & RUTH CHOSE THE PEOPLE OF GOD (YAY)

I WANT THOSE THINGS FOR YOU TOO... BUT THAT DOESN'T REALLY REFLECT RUTH

SHE JUST CHOSE NAOMI • SHE CHOSE TO STICK WITH BITTER PERSON BUT NOT BECOME BITTER

## Take it Home

**BITTER** people need **BETTER** friends.  
loving... loyal... **FAITH-ful**...

NAOMI HAD NO IDEA HOW MUCH GOD LOVED HER... SO SHE NEEDED RUTH.

FOR RUTH, SHE GOT LUCKY, SHE FOUND HERSELF IN THE HANDS OF A GOOD GOD  
SHE HAD NO EVIDENCE GOD WOULD BE GOOD TO HER • EVEN IF HE WAS REAL, SHE WAS MOABITE!

BUT YOU KNOW BETTER • THIS STORY IS THE PROOF.

ARE YOU BITTER • ARE YOU THE BETTER FRIEND • DO YOU KNOW HOW LOVED YOU ARE?



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